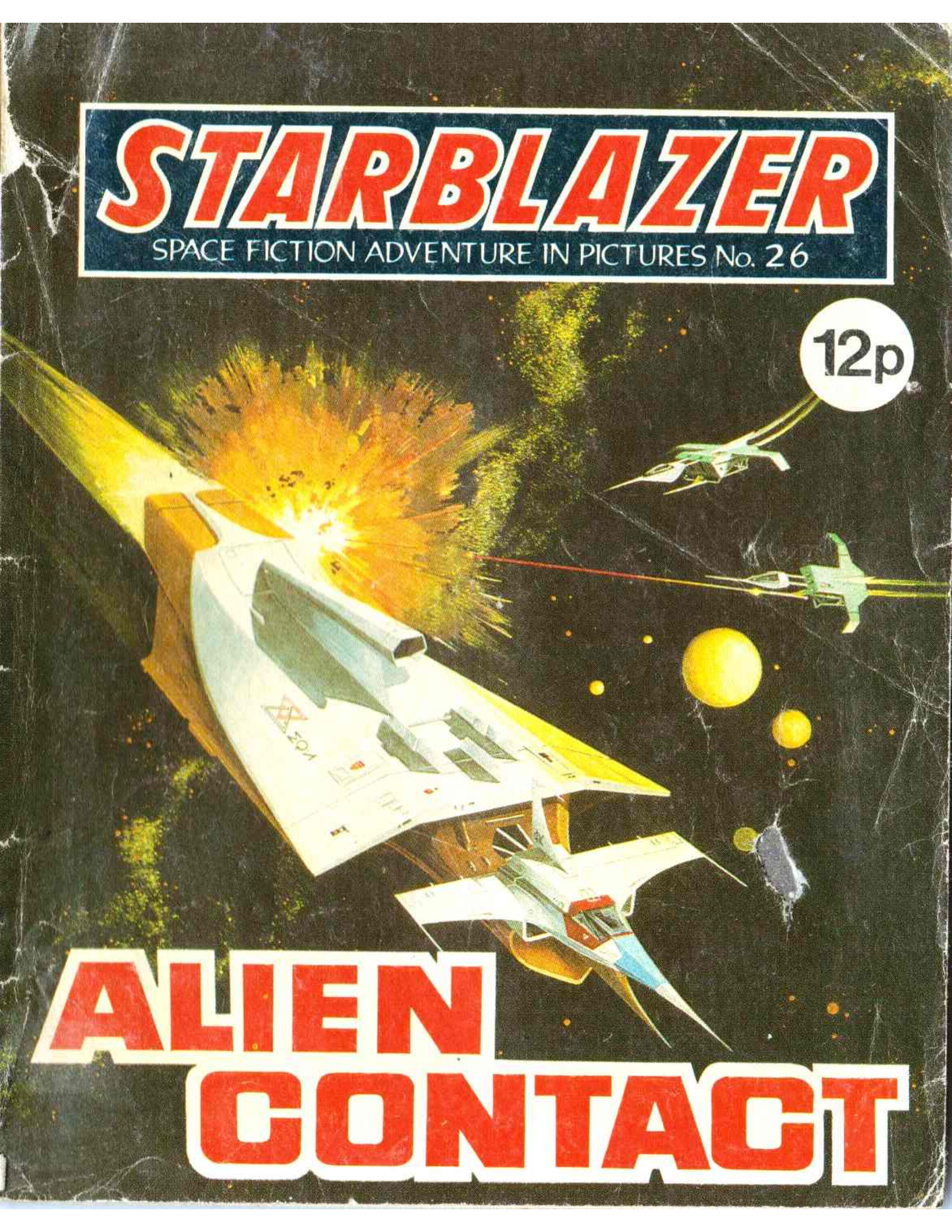
# STARBLAZER

SPACE FICTION ADVENTURE IN PICTURES No. 26

12p



# ALIEN CONTACT

STARBLAZER
Even before man took the first steps into space searching for new planets, stars and galaxies, he often felt that he was being watched—but what happens when man meets his watchers? These thoughts were not very far from Matt Crane's mind as he searched unknown space for a missing explorer craft — one of many to disappear.

ALIEN CONTACT
SPACE PATROL VESSEL ROVER WARPED THROUGH THE STARFIELD OF A GRADE D SOLAR SYSTEM—A SOLAR SYSTEM THAT HAD ONLY LIMITED DEVELOPMENT.

CAPTAIN MATT CRANE WATCHED THE VIDEO-AUTONAV.
THIS IS THE LAST REPORTED POSITION OF THAT EXPLORER CAPSULE . . . NO TRACE.

YES THERE IS, SIR . . . AN AUDIO TRACE. CLOSING FAST.

TRY VID CONTACT.

IT'S STOPPED.
WHAT IS IT?

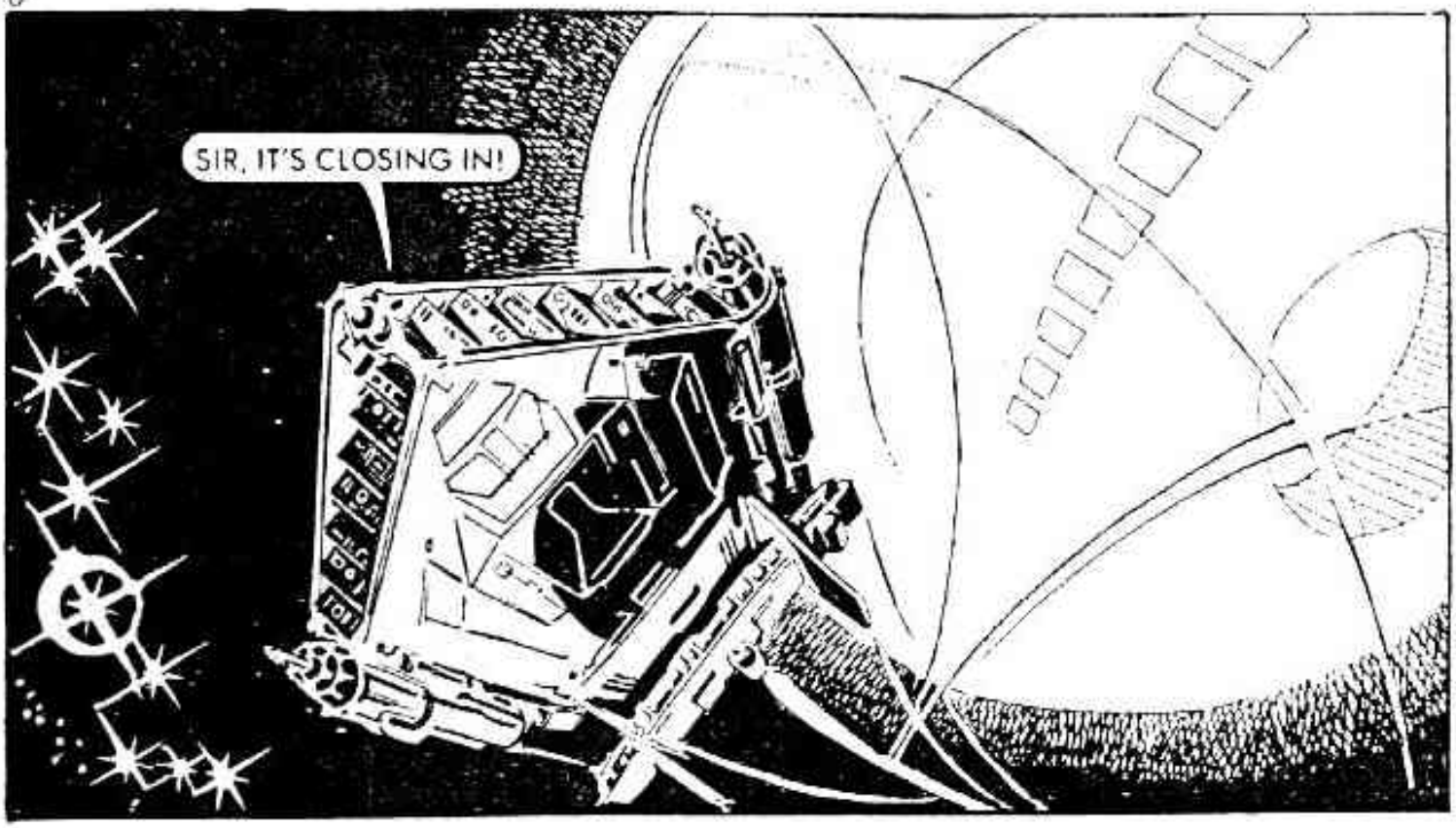
I'VE TRIED ALL FREQUENCIES, SIR. THERE'S NO RESPONSE.

WHAT'S WRONG, BOSUN?
EXCESS DRAG, SIR! THE CONTROLS ARE GETTING HEAVIER!

LATCH 10—GET OUT OF HERE, ENGINES!

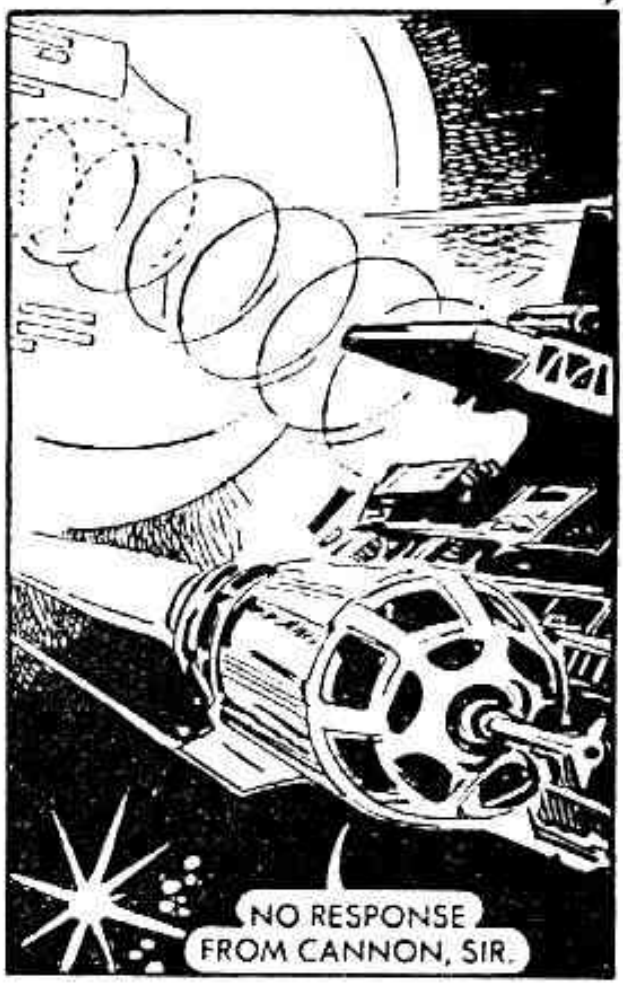
BUT THE VAST ALIEN VESSEL MATCHED ROVER'S SPEED AND MANOEUVRE.

SEND THIS MESAGE . . . ALIEN CONTACT . . . APPEARS HOSTILE . . . POSITION GAMMA 14, COURSE 730 AT LATCH 10. GALACTIC TIME 7.37.


SIR, IT'S CLOSING IN!

ROVER'S SISTER SHIP, ADVENTURE, PICKED UP THE DISTRESS CALL, AND WARPED IN TO HELP.
ARM PHOTON BOLTS, AND FIRE ON MY COMMAND.

ADVENTURE PASSED CLOSE TO THE ALIEN SHIP.
FIRE!

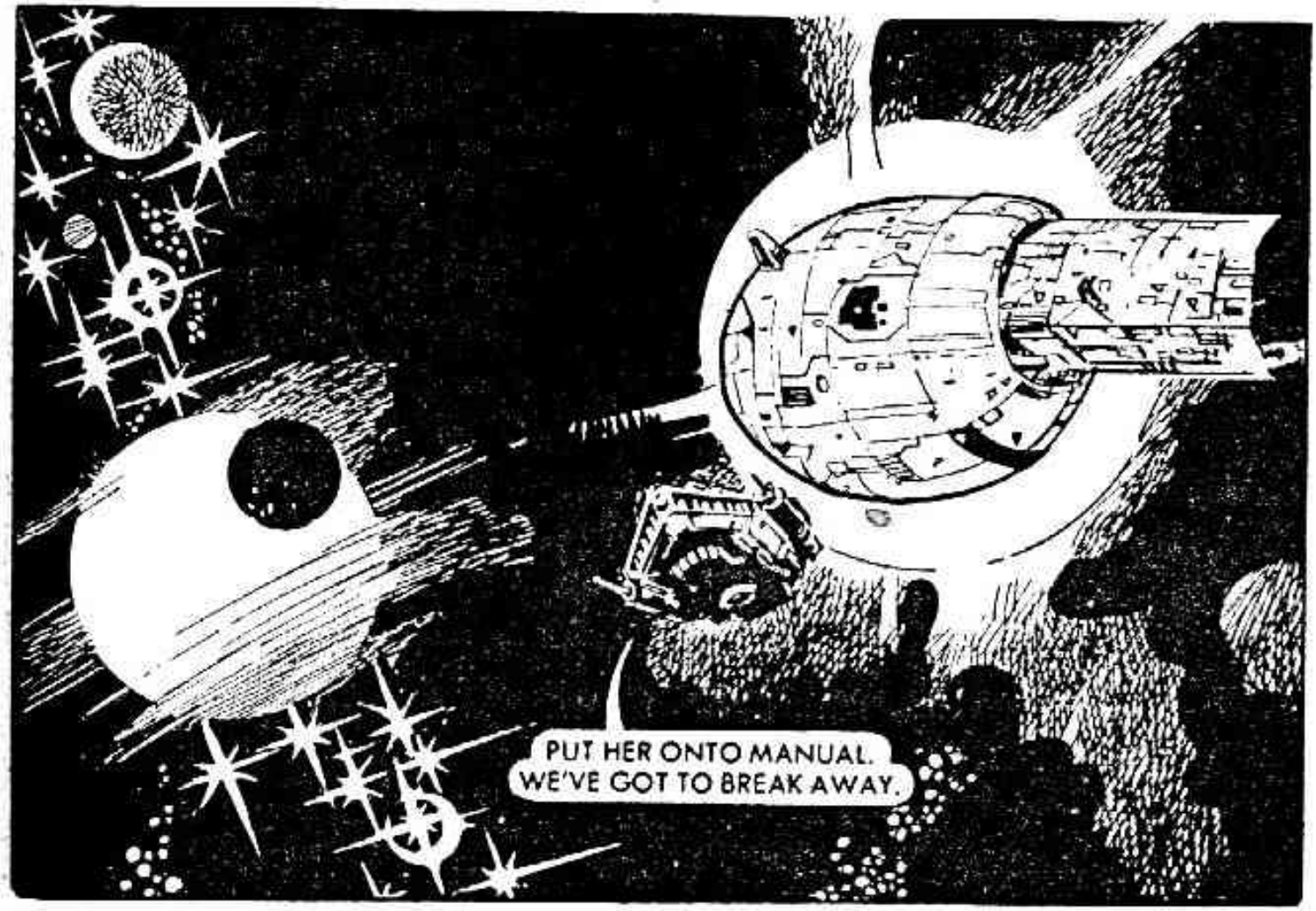

NO RESPONSE FROM CANNON, SIR.

ON BOARD ROVER.
THEY'VE DESTROYED ADVENTURE. ALL GUN CREWS STAND DOWN.

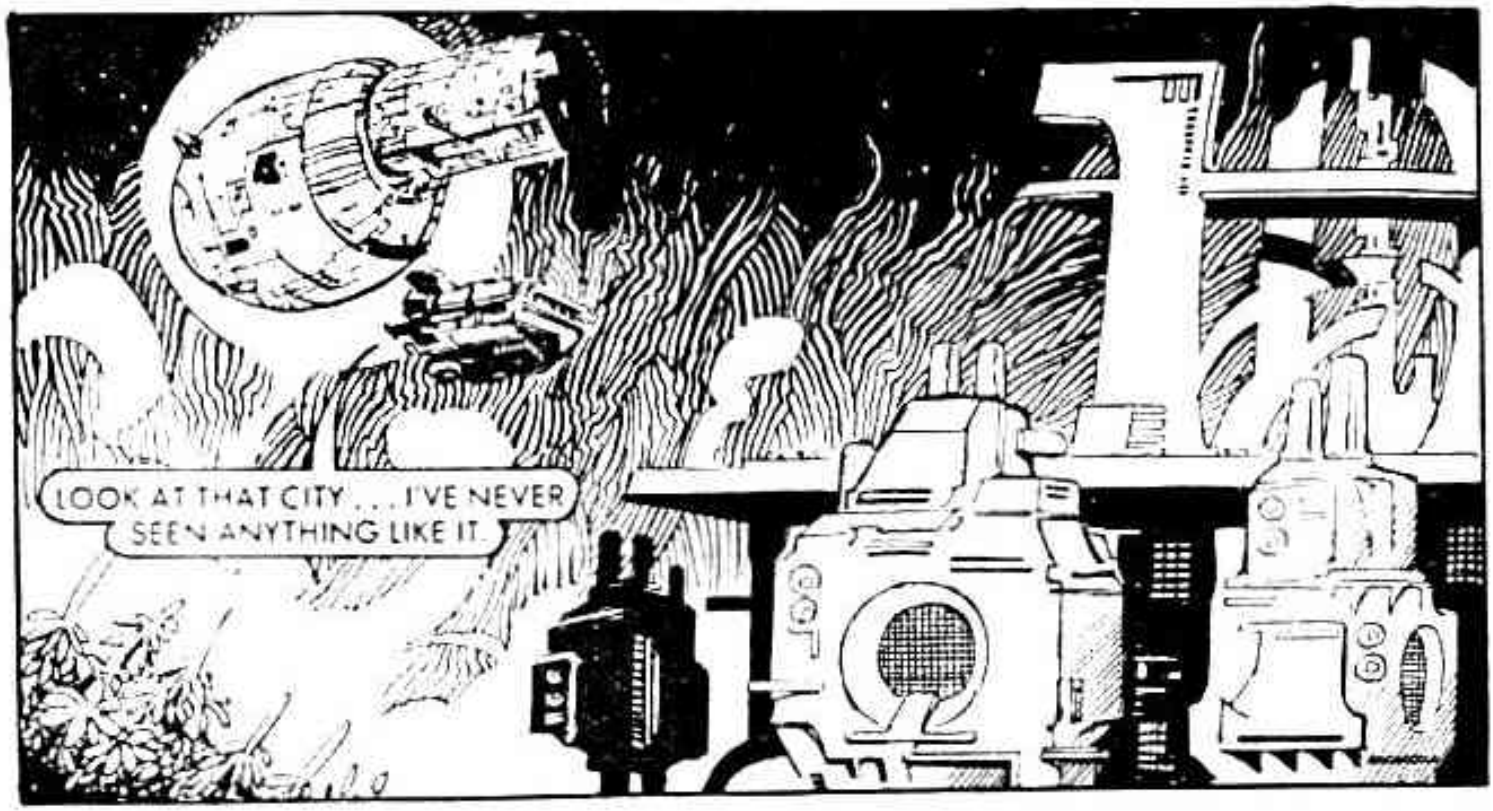
THE INSTRUMENTS . . .

WE'RE BEING SYSTEMATICALLY PUT OUT OF ACTION.

SHE'S NOT RESPONDING TO THE CONTROLS.
ALL OUR SYSTEMS HAVE BEEN OVER-RIDDEN.

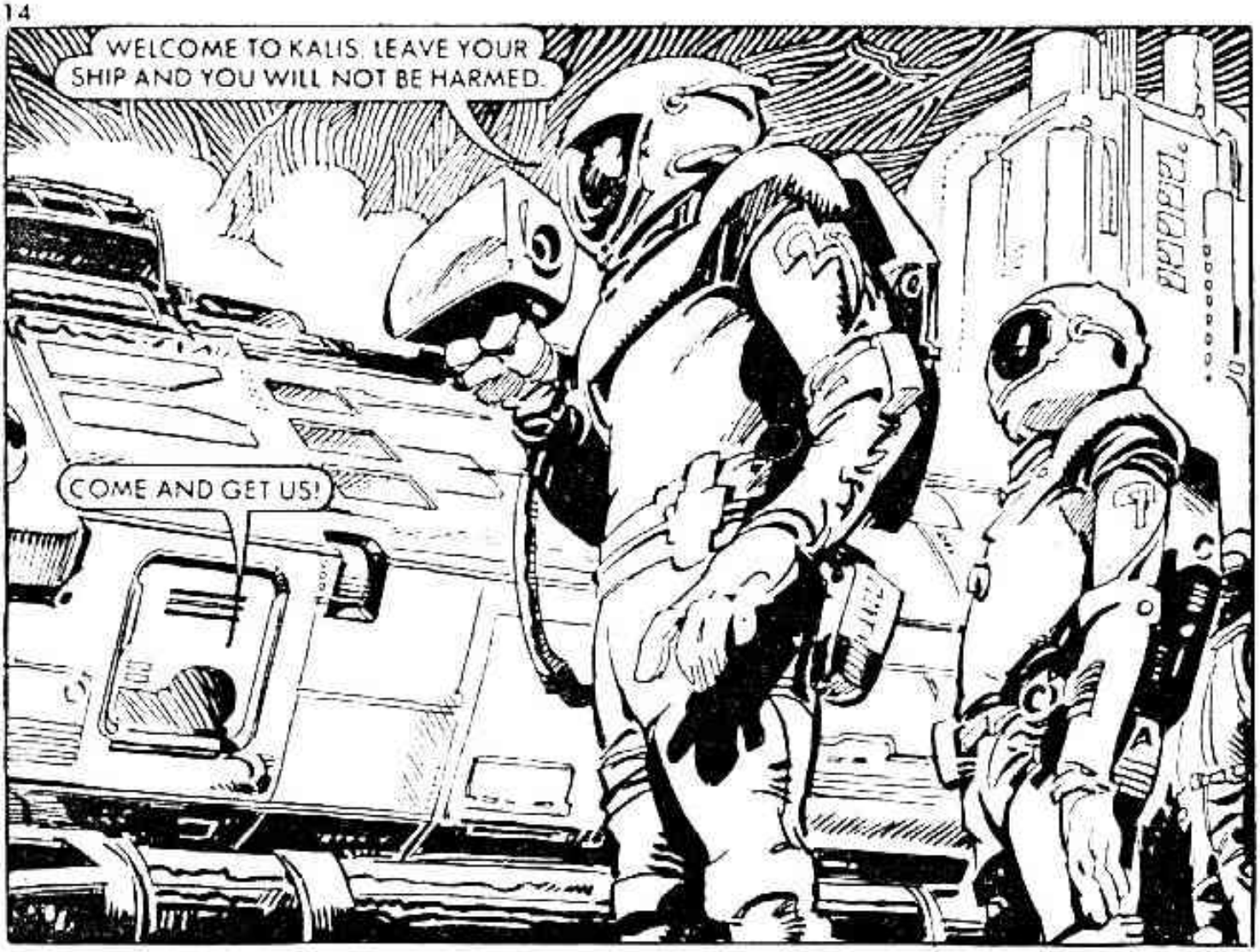

PUT HER ONTO MANUAL. WE'VE GOT TO BREAK AWAY.

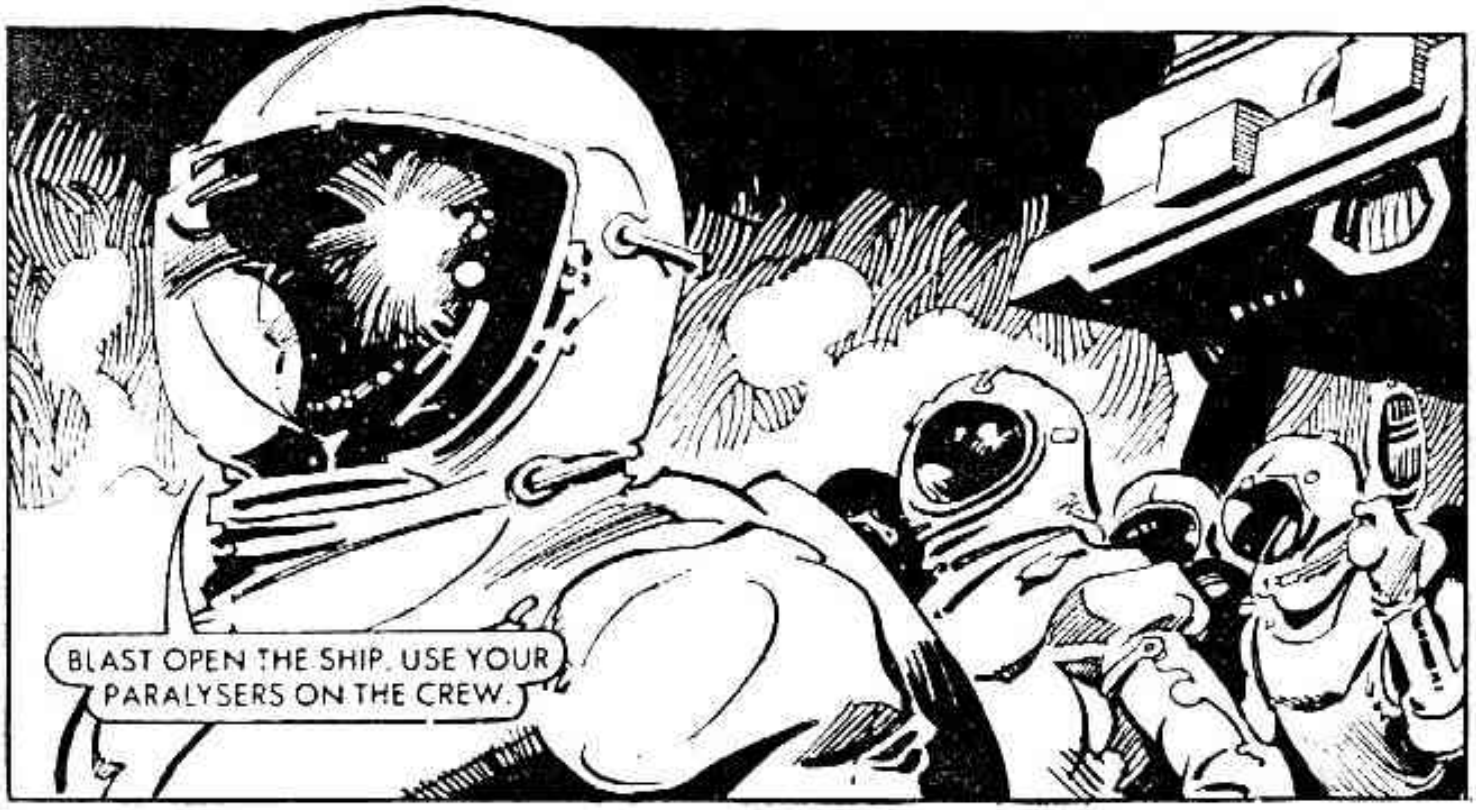
IT'S NO GOOD . . . THEY'VE EVEN TAKEN OVER MANUAL CONTROL
CRANE ORDERED HIS CREW TO CEASE RESISTANCE AND THE ALIEN CRAFT DESCENDED TO A PLANET !


LOOK AT THAT CITY . . . I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT.

THE ALIEN SHIP CAME IN TO LAND

MATT VIEWED THE SCENE ON THE VIDEO
A WELCOMING PARTY


WELCOME TO KALIS. LEAVE YOUR SHIP AND YOU WILL NOT BE HARMED.
COME AND GET US!


BLAST OPEN THE SHIP. USE YOUR PARALYSERS ON THE CREW.

WE'LL MEET THEM AS THEY COME IN.

STAND BY—THEY'RE ALMOST THROUGH.

BUT CRANE AND HIS CREW NEVER STOOD A CHANCE.
MY PHOTON BLASTER'S USELESS.

DO NOT KILL THEM! WE NEED THEM ALIVE!
USE THE SONIC PARALYSERS!

EXCELLENCY, THE CREW OF THE EARTH SHIP.
REVIVE THAT LAST ONE. I WISH TO TALK WITH HIM.

THEY FOUGHT WELL... THEIR LEADER WILL DECIDE THE FATE OF HIS COMPANIONS.

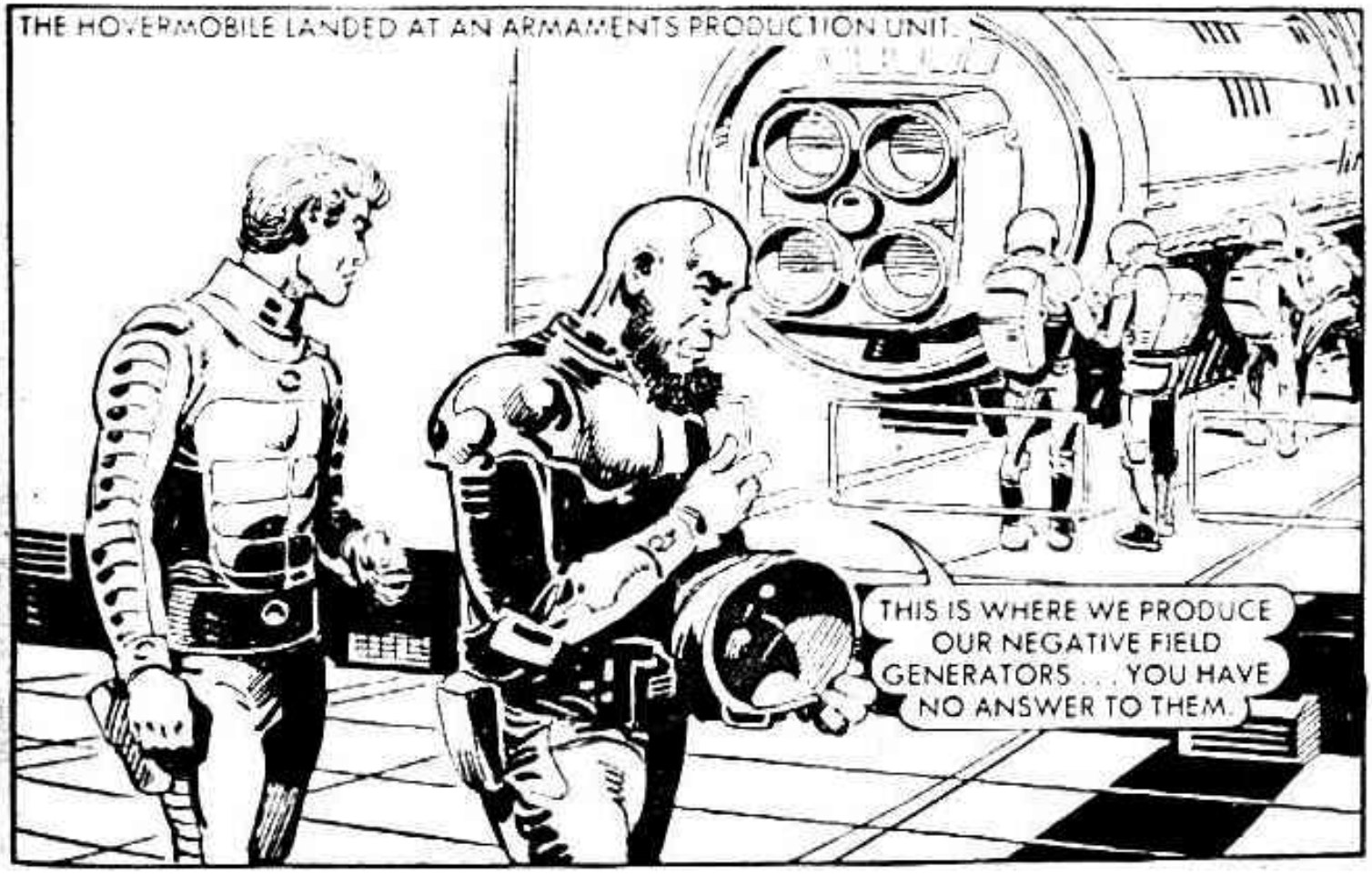
I AM KAAL, LEADER OF THE PEOPLE OF KALIS. I DISLIKE OTHER RACES NEAR MY PLANET KALIS. I SHALL NOW DESTROY YOUR HOME PLANET, EARTHMAN.
I DON'T THINK SO!

EARTH CANNOT STOP US. YOU HAVE NO ANSWER TO OUR WEAPONS.
WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?

I REQUIRE INFORMATION— YOU WILL SUPPLY IT.

SUPPLY THE INFORMATION, AND I'LL LET YOU LIVE
IF YOU KILL ME, YOU'LL NEVER GET THE INFORMATION.
THAT IS TRUE, BUT THERE ARE WAYS OF EXTRACTING INFORMATION FROM RELUCTANT PEOPLE. COME, I WILL SHOW YOU THE FUTILITY OF YOUR RESISTANCE.
YOU'RE MAD. YOU HAVE NO REASON TO TAKE THE ACTION YOU CONTEMPLATE.
TWICE YOUR CRAFT HAVE ENTERED OUR NAVIGATION SPACE

THEY BOARDED KAAL 5 HOVERMOBILE
WE WERE ON A PEACEFUL MISSION LOOKING FOR THE EXPLORER CAPSULE!
IT IS A THREAT TO OUR WORLD! EARTH MUST BE CRUSHED


THE HOVERMOBILE LANDED AT AN ARMAMENTS PRODUCTION UNIT.
THIS IS WHERE WE PRODUCE OUR NEGATIVE FIELD GENERATORS . . . YOU HAVE NO ANSWER TO THEM.

WE WILL NOW GO TO THE SPACEPORT.

eldubyafiodmepri

THEY BOARDED ROVER.
I REQUIRE ALL THE SPECIFICATIONS OF THIS SHIP.
I WON'T USE OVERDRIVE. THAT WAY I MIGHT CONCEAL A FEW THOUSAND MILES PER SEC.

DONE IT! OVERDRIVE IS SHUT OFF!

CRANE ENGAGED DRIVE, AND ROVER SLOWLY LIFTED OFF.

ONCE IN SPACE...
YOU ARE STUPID TO CONCEAL THINGS. YOU WILL REGRET WHAT YOU DID.
YOU DIDN'T REALLY THINK THAT I WOULD HELP YOU CONQUER EARTH, DID YOU?

WE WILL GET THE INFORMATION FROM YOU WHEN WE GET BACK TO KALIS. YOUR BRAIN WILL BE SCANNED.

BACK ON THE PLANET, CRANE WAS TAKEN AWAY BY THE SECURITY FORCES.
KAAL WANTS A COMPLETE BRAIN SCAN DONE.
uuuu!

YOU WON'T GET ANY INFORMATION OUT OF ME.
ON THE CONTRARY—WE WILL GET EVERYTHING YOU KNOW.

CRANE WAS CONNECTED TO THE CEREBRAL-SCANNER.

eldubya/lodineprie

PULL HIM THROUGH. I'LL REPLACE THE GRILLE AFTER ME.

WHERE AM I?
SAFE! BE QUIET AND FOLLOW US.

I AM HARO, ONE OF AN OUTCAST GROUP . . .
HARO EXPLAINED THAT THE KRAHLS WERE THE DOMINANT RACE ON THE PLANET KALIS. OVER THE YEARS THEY HAD FORCED THE PEACEFUL HAROLS OUT OF ALL FORMS OF GOVERNMENT AND SET ABOUT THE SYSTEMATIC SLAUGHTER OF ANY OPPOSITION TO THEIR REGIME.

CRANE EVENTUALLY REACHED THE MEETING PLACE.
WE SAW THEM TAKE YOU AWAY. WE WANT YOUR HELP TO FIGHT THE KRAHLS.

WE NEED A LEADER . . . SOMEONE WHO CAN FIGHT.

THE KRAHLS ARE SEARCHING EVERYWHERE FOR YOU. YOU'VE GOT TO LEAVE.

THEY MADE THEIR WAY TO THE WALKWAYS.
WHAT'S THAT?
A HOVERSPY! THEY ARE USED TO MONITOR US. DO NOT WORRY—WE DE-ACTIVATED THAT ONE.

EVENTUALLY THEY REACHED THE BOUNDARY WALL.
THIS DEVICE WORKS ONCE. WE CAN CUT THIS FENCE FOR A SHORT TIME. HURRY, WE MUST GET INTO THE JUNGLE.

WHY IS THE WALL NEEDED?
TO KEEP WILD CREATURES OUT OF THE CITY.

ARE THESE ALL THE WEAPONS YOU HAVE?
YES. THIS IS A LANCET— A HEAT KNIFE. WE ALSO HAVE . . .

CRANE DIVED ASIDE AS THE CREATURE'S RAZOR SHARP CLAWS SWEPT DOWN TO RAKE HIM.

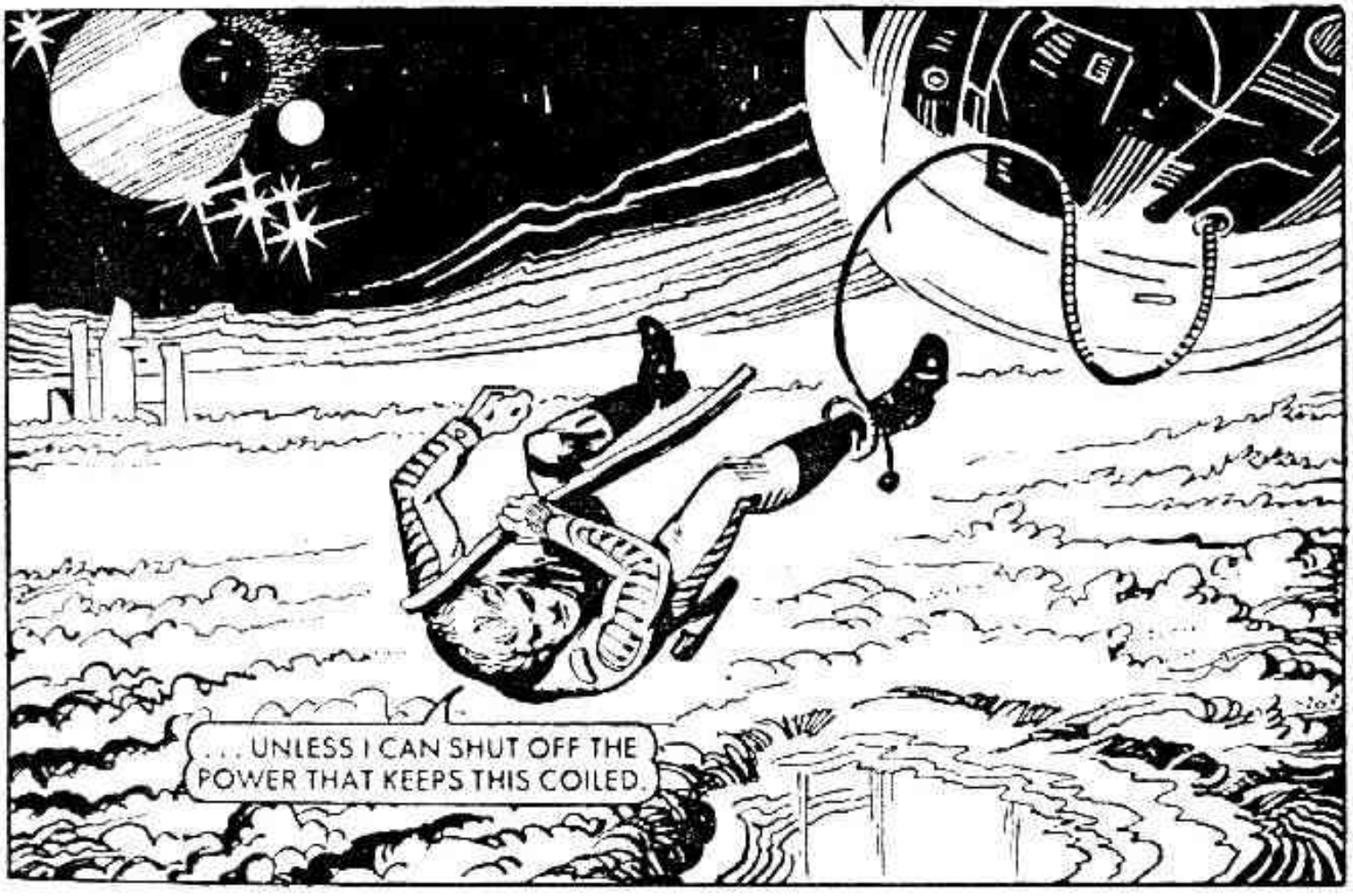
AS THE CREATURE MOVED IN FOR THE KILL, CRANE DROVE A STICK INTO ITS CHEST.

QUIET! I CAN HEAR SOMETHING ELSE.

A HOVERSPY.
GET UNDER COVER.

BUT CRANE WAS TOO SLOW . . . A LASER DRAGWIRE SNAKED ROUND HIS ANKLE.
RUN, YOU LOT! FORGET ME!

THIS THING WILL TAKE ME BACK TO CERTAIN DEATH . . .


. . . UNLESS I CAN SHUT OFF THE POWER THAT KEEPS THIS COILED.

CRANE STRAINED AT THE COILED TENTACLE, AND THEN KICKED THE HOVERSPY IMMEDIATELY THE CRAFT PUT UP A FORCEFIELD TO PROTECT ITSELF.
IT'S BROKEN! THE HOVERSPY TRANSFERRED ALL ITS POWER TO ITS FORCEFIELD.
CRANE PLUNGED INTO THE EVIL-SMELLING WATER A LONG WAY BELOW.
WEEDS! I'M TANGLED.

WHAT SORT OF BEAST IS THAT? IT SEEMS TO WANT TO HELP.

SLOWLY CRANE PULLED HIMSELF TO SAFETY BY THE BEAST'S LIFELINE.

THANKS, WHOEVER YOU ARE.
LOOKS LIKE I'VE GOT A GUIDE AS WELL AS A RESCUER.

MATT STUMBLED AGAINST A BUSH.
WHAT THE . . . A ROOT!

WHAT'S THAT?

THE STRANGE FRUIT GAVE OFF A GAS, AND THEY BOTH SLUMPED INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS.

SOME TIME LATER, CRANE CAME TO.
I WONDER HOW LONG I'VE BEEN OUT.
THESE WILL BE USEFUL AS A WEAPON. WE'LL TAKE SOME WITH US.

BUT THE HAROD FOUND THEM.
WE THOUGHT THE HOVERSPY HAD YOU.
SO DID I, BUT I MANAGED TO GET AWAY. THIS FELLOW HELPED ME.
I WONDER HOW WE'LL FIND THE OTHERS.

IT IS A MAKU. THEY ARE VERY INTELLIGENT CREATURES AND FRIENDLY.

TOGETHER THEY PLANNED AN ATTACK.
WE WILL GET INTO THE CITY THROUGH TUNNELS, THEN WE'LL ATTACK.

BEFORE WE HEAD FOR THE TUNNEL, TAKE SOME OF THESE. THEY MAY PROVE USEFUL.

I'LL TAKE THE COVER OFF SO WE CAN GET INSIDE.
NO... DON'T TOUCH IT!

A PROTON FIELD—SET TO STUN. NOW AN ALARM MUST HAVE GONE OFF.

THAT'S NEUTRALISED THE PROTON FIELD.

WE USED TO MINE HERE. A FEW OF US MADE A SLIGHT DIVERSION.

WATCH OUT! THAT'S ANOTHER BOOBY TRAP! A PHOTON BOLT.

IF I POLISH THIS UP I MAY BE ABLE TO REFLECT THAT BEAM BACK ONTO ITSELF.

THE PLATE DID JUST THAT

FIRST WE GO TO THE WATER PLANT. A CHEMICAL IS PUT IN THE WATER AND THIS CONTROLS OUR MINDS.

OUTSIDE THE WATER PLANT
USE THE KNOCKOUT GAS ON THEM.

COME ON! WE HAVEN'T MUCH TIME.

MAKE SURE THEIR SUPPLY OF THE DRUG IS DESTROYED.

WE'LL LEAVE THESE TO DRAIN
LET'S HEAD FOR THE ARMOURY.

AT THE ARMOURY.
INTRUDERS!

WE'VE BEEN SPOTTED!
THE MAKU . . . WHERE IS IT GOING?

THE MAKU CLIMBED AGILELY OVER THE ROOFTOPS AND JUMPED DOWN ON THE ARMOURY GUARDS

THE PROTON THERMOBLASTER WAS TURNED ON THE ARMOURY DOORS
TAKE AS MANY WEAPONS AS YOU CAN CARRY

DESTROY THE REST.

WE SHOULD HAVE ENOUGH WEAPONS TO LAUNCH A PROPER ATTACK.

WE NEED TO CREATE A DIVERSION SO THAT WE CAN MOUNT THE ATTACK.

WRECK THE FENCE!

THAT WILL KEEP THE KRAHLS BUSY FOR A WHILE

IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE THE FIRST CREATURES CRAWLED INTO THE CITY.

SOON THERE WAS PANIC IN THE CITY
EMERGENCY REPAIR NEEDED. ALL GUARDS INTO THE STREETS.

BUT THE CREATURES TOOK A LOT OF STOPPING.

CRANE HEADED FOR THE DETENTION AREA.
WE'LL RESCUE MY MEN FIRST.

IN THE PRISON BLOCK.
BLAST THE DOORS OPEN.
407

GRAB A BLASTER! WE'RE GOING TO CAPTURE THE CONTROL CENTRE

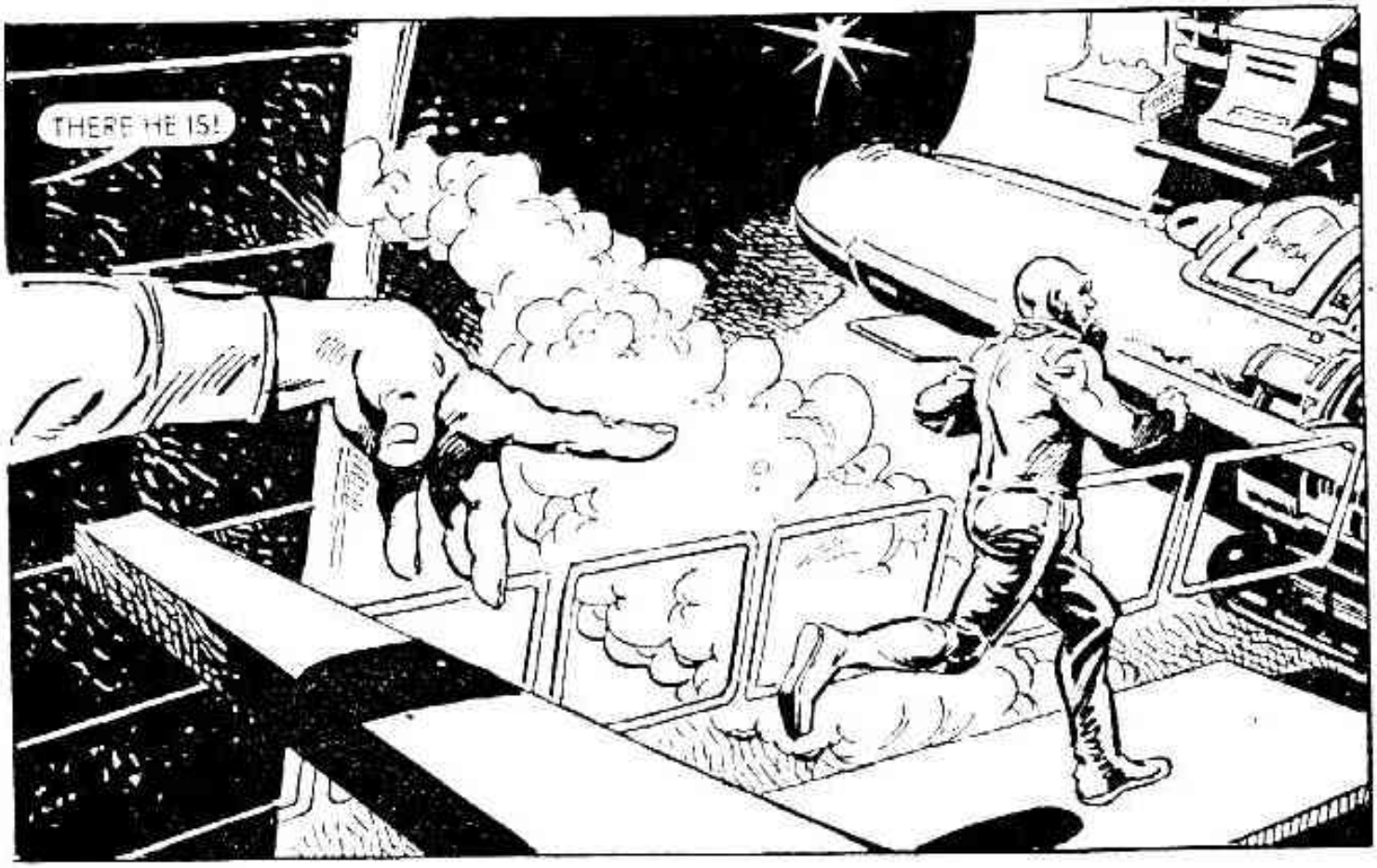
HOW DO YOU KNOW WHERE EVERYTHING IS?
I WAS GIVEN A GUIDED TOUR. THE CONTROL IS ROUND THE CORNER— WE'LL BLAST OUR WAY IN.

CRANE AND HIS MEN BURST INTO THE CONTROL CENTRE.

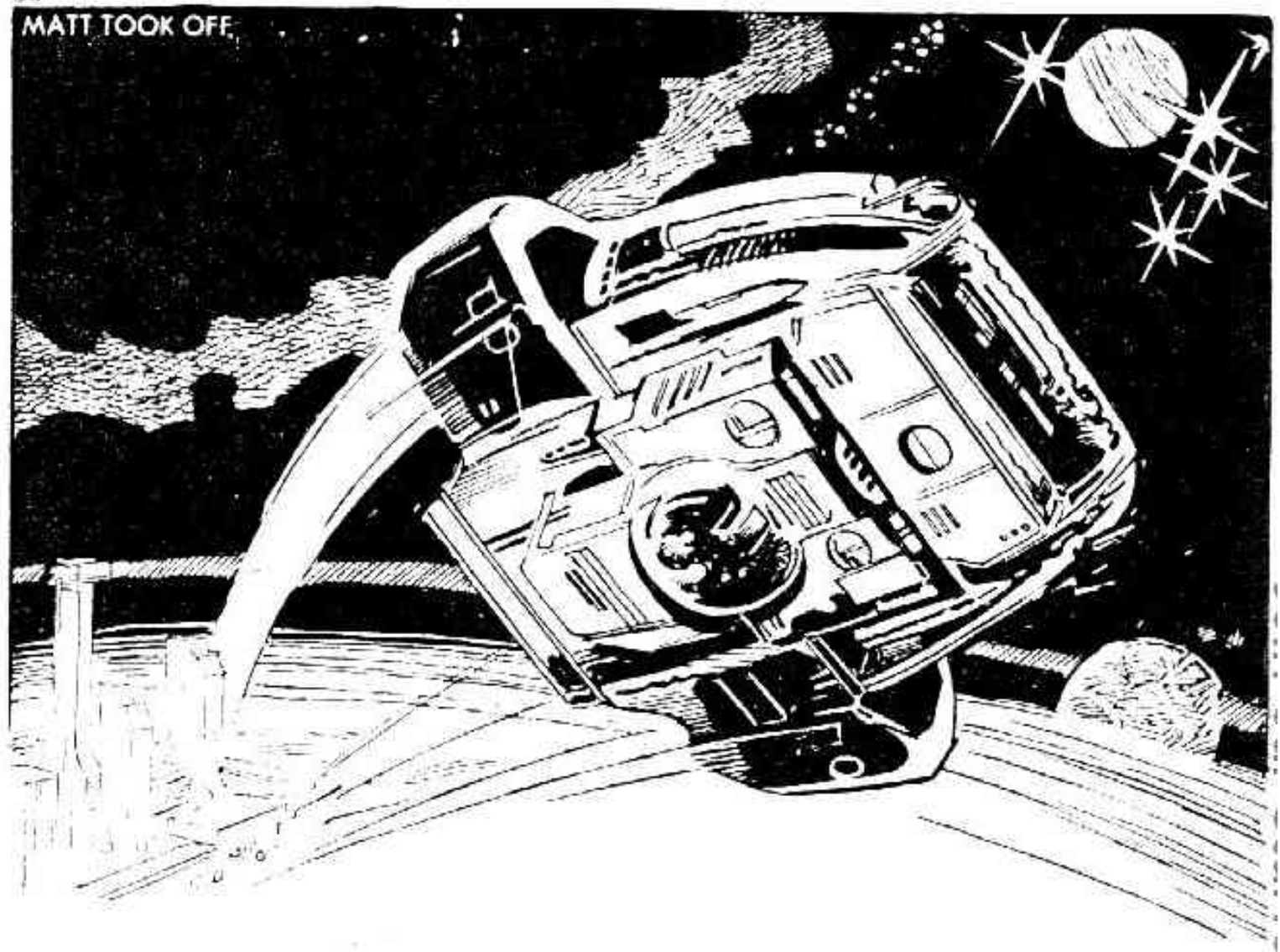
CONTACT SPACE PATROL . . .
DEMAND ALERT " A " ASSISTANCE

S.P.V ROVER AT CO-ORDINATES X3.15 BY 352.1—WE REQUIRE ALERT " A " ASSISTANCE . . . REPEAT AAA

Join our starter unit!


THERE HE IS!

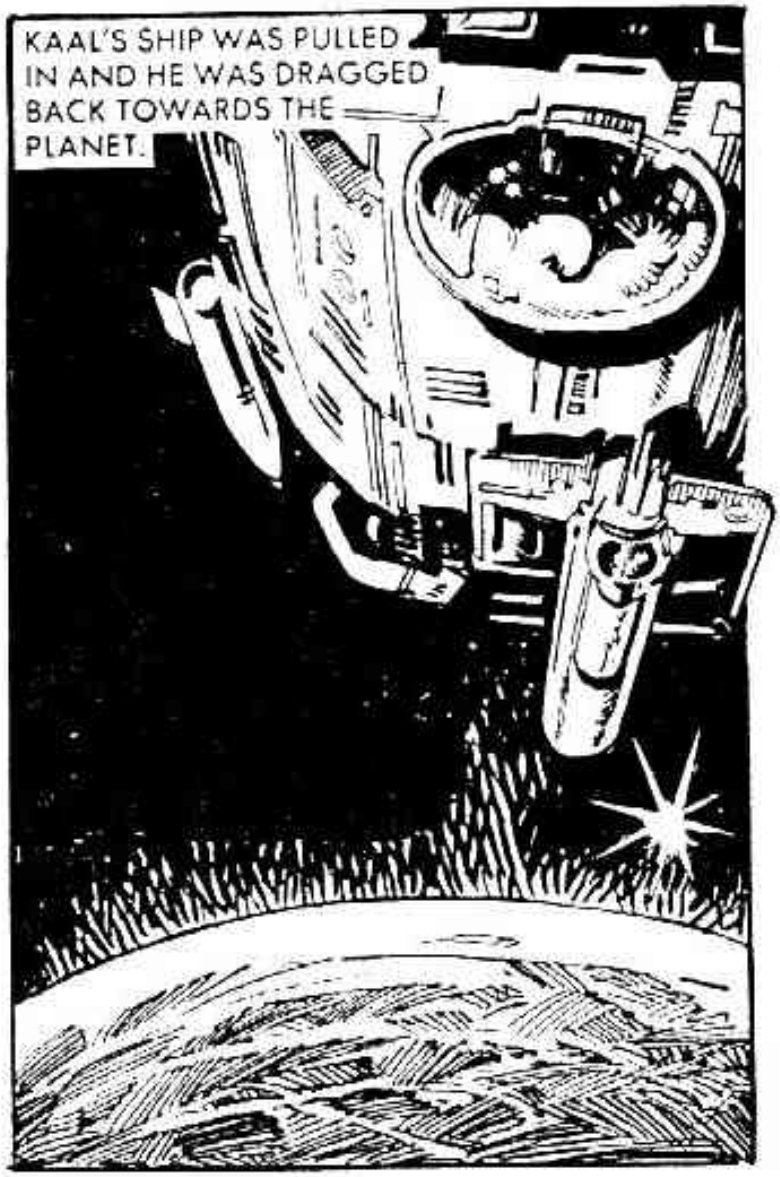
HE'S BLASTED OFF!
WE'LL TAKE ONE OF THEIR SHIPS. HE'S NOT GETTING AWAY.

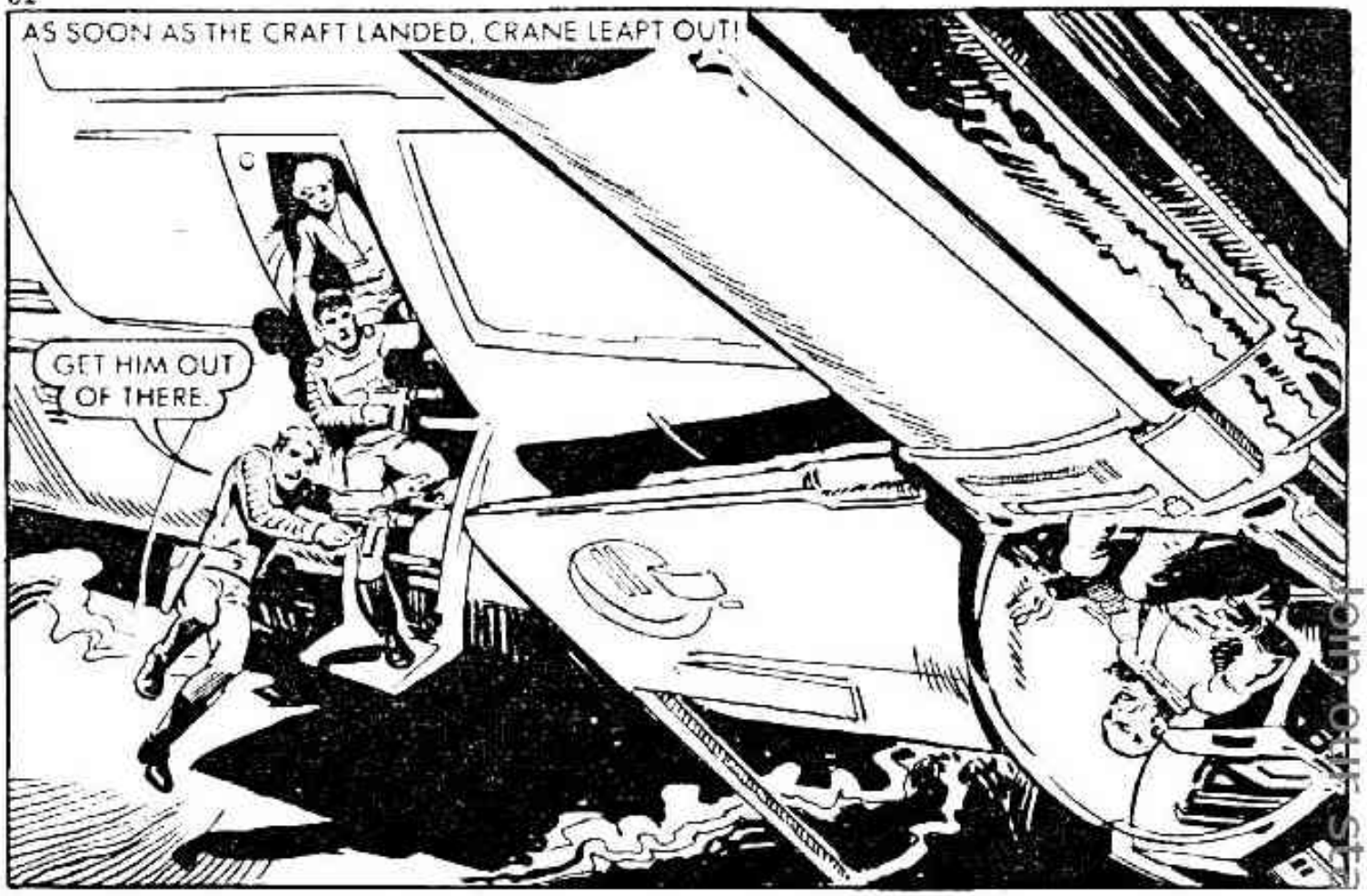

MATT TOOK OFF.

CLOSING FAST . . . ACTIVATE PHOTON-GENERATORS . . .

. . . WE'LL USE THE FORCE BEAM ON HIM.

BEAM ON . . . NOW!


KAAL'S SHIP WAS PULLED IN AND HE WAS DRAGGED BACK TOWARDS THE PLANET.


AS SOON AS THE CRAFT LANDED, CRANE LEAPT OUT!
GET HIM OUT OF THERE.

WE'LL SOON GET HIM OUT.

HOLY JUPITER—HE'S USED THE ESCAPE POD.
INTO THE BUILDING—WE MUST FIND KAAL.

CRANE AND MAKU ENTERED THE MIND SCAN ROOM.
LOOK OVER THERE, MAKU! I'LL LOOK IN HERE!

KAAL WAS WAITING FOR CRANE.
I WILL CLEAR YOUR MIND, THEN I WILL TURN YOU AND YOUR CRAFT AGAINST EARTH. YOU SHALL NOT DEFEAT ME.

BUT MAKU HAD OTHER IDEAS.
IN THERE EARTH . . .

THAT'S KAAL AND HIS EVIL WAYS FINISHED.

SPACE-PATROL FLEET ARRIVED AND MOPPED UP ALL THE RESISTANCE. THE PLANET WAS RETURNED TO THE HAROD WHO WOULD BEGIN TO BUILD THEIR FUTURE IN CO-OPERATION WITH EARTH.
ALL LEAVE IS CANCELLED. WE HAVE A DISTRESS CALL FROM ALPHA TAURUS . . . PREPARE FOR HYPER DRIVE.
S.P.V. ROVER BLASTED OFF FOR THE STARLANES. ONE JOB WAS DONE, AND ANOTHER BEGAN.

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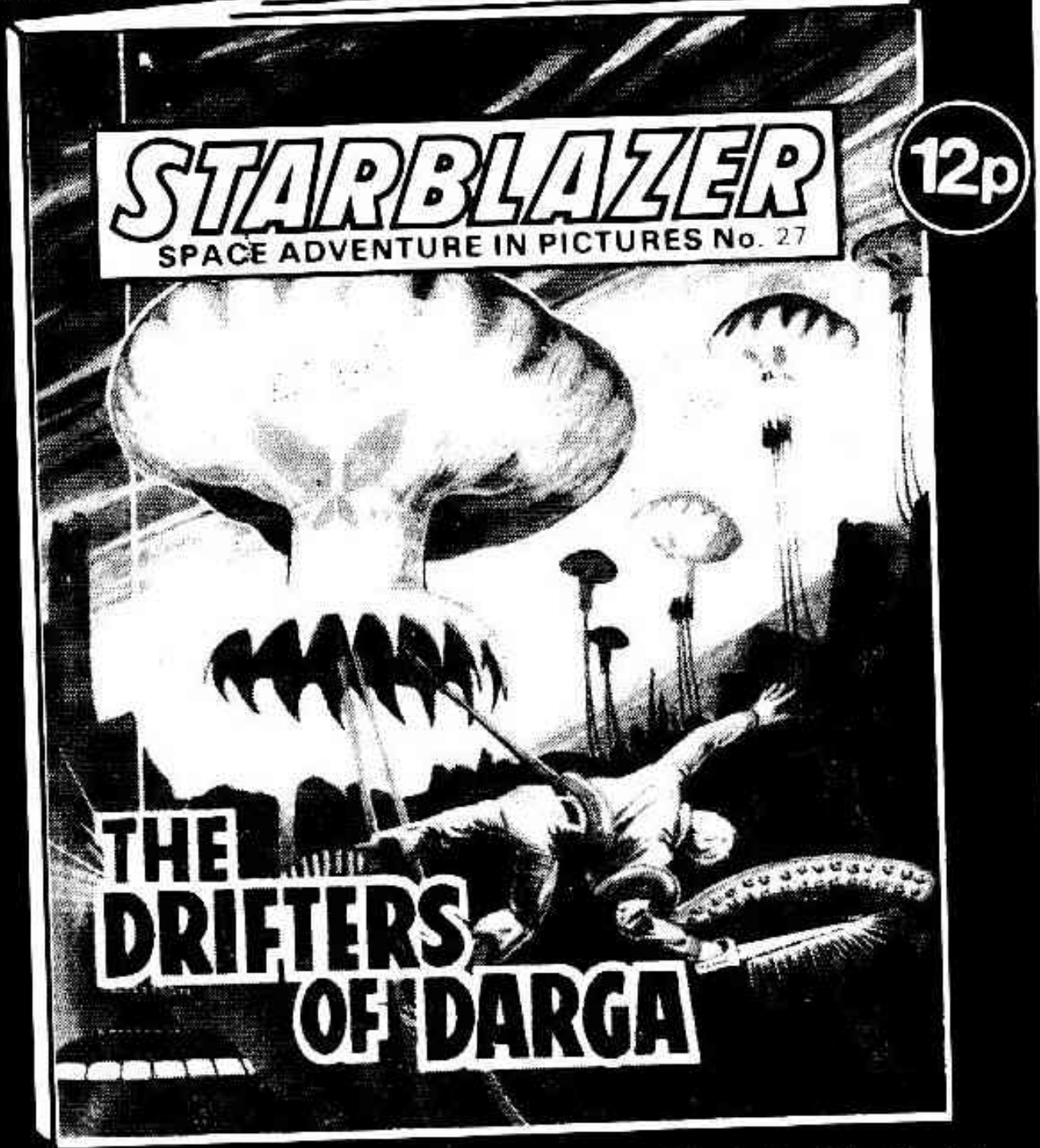
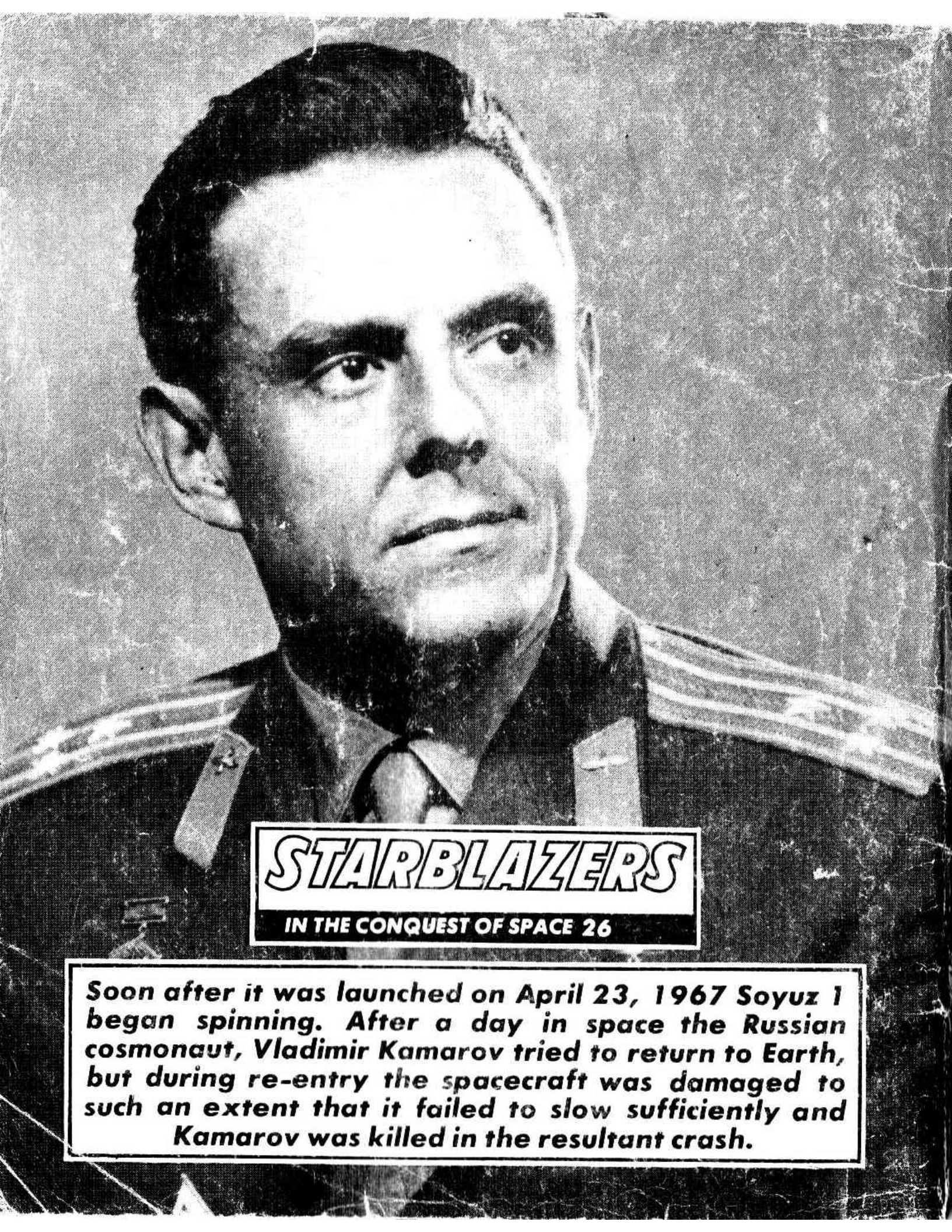
# COME STARBLAZING

*with the other*




**ALSO ON SALE THIS MONTH**




**Soon after it was launched on April 23, 1967 Soyuz 1 began spinning. After a day in space the Russian cosmonaut, Vladimir Kamarov tried to return to Earth, but during re-entry the spacecraft was damaged to such an extent that it failed to slow sufficiently and Kamarov was killed in the resultant crash.**